

2015 WARRANT



TOWN OF NEW BOSTON

To the Inhabitants of the Town of New Boston, New Hampshire in the County of Hillsborough, in said State qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified in accordance with SB-2, the first session of all business other than voting by official ballot shall be held on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 7:00 pm, at the New Boston Central School. The first session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each warrant article. Warrant Articles may be amended, subject to the following limitations:

- (a) Warrant Articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended.
- (b) Warrant Articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for final vote on the main motion, as amended.

The second session of the annual meeting, to vote on questions required by law to be inserted on said official ballot and to vote on all warrant articles from the first session on official ballot shall be held on Tuesday, the tenth of March 2015 from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm to act upon the following:

Article 1

- Selectman for 3 years: (One seat)
- Cemetery Trustee for 3 years: (One seat)
- Fire Ward for 3 years: (Three seats)
- Library Trustee for 3 years: (Two seats)
- Library Trustee for 1 year (One seat)
- Trustee of the Trust Funds for 3 years: (One seat)
- Town Clerk for 3 years (One seat)

Articles 2 through 14 are Planning and Zoning amendments

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000)** for the purchase of land Map 8, Lot 110-2 (approx. 3.25 acres); furthermore to authorize the issuance of not more than **two hundred thousand (\$200,000)** in bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act RSA Chapter 33; and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest thereon; furthermore to raise and appropriate an additional sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00)** for legal and administrative fees incurred. **(3/5th majority vote required for passage.)** (Selectmen and Finance Committee recommend 6 -1 abstained)

Explanation for Article 15. This land is available and is centrally located and easily accessible being located on Mont Vernon Road next to the Post Office. The property could be used for any town use as designated by the Selectmen including a fire station.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an **operating budget** not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **four million, six hundred nine thousand, six hundred sixty (\$4,609,660)** Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **four million, five hundred twenty nine thousand, seven hundred seventy four (\$4,529,774)** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of New Boston or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This operating budget article doesn't contain appropriations contained in any other articles. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 6 -1 abstained)

Explanation for Article 16. The operating budget includes routine, and for the most part, recurring expenses related to staffing (including salaries and benefits), supplies, utilities, vehicles, maintenance, repairs, and the like required for the day-to-day operation of the town departments.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00)** for the purpose of completing the road improvements on Old Coach Road to include reconstruction of surface, drainage repairs, engineering and other necessary construction related to this project, the sum of **three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00)** to come from fund balance with no amount to be raised from taxation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the project is complete or until December 31, 2020. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 17. This will complete the Old Coach Road repair and reconstruction programs. This specific area of construction will be focused at the beginning of Old Coach at Mont Vernon Road. The purpose is to create a safer road and design and complete all drainage recommendations and requirements.

Article 18. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00)** to be placed in the Town Hall Renovation Capital Reserve Fund already established. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 18. Last year the town meeting approved the initial \$45,000 toward the completion of the repairing and renovations to the basement of the town hall. There is a need for insulation, furnace, electrical work and plumbing along with a new concrete floor. The amount of \$40,000 will complete the said project.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ninety one thousand two hundred and sixteen dollars (\$91,216)** for the purpose of completing the town hall renovation (primarily for the completion of the cellar insulation, flooring and other proposed energy saving repairs) and furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of **ninety one thousand two hundred sixteen dollars (\$91,216)** from the Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. This article is contingent on the passage of Article 18. Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 19. This is the last phase of the proposed renovations at the Town Hall which consists of completing several energy saving modifications in the basement of the building. Included will be an insulation program along with the construction of a new floor, removal of unused tanks and purchase and installation of a new central heating system.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000)**, to be placed in the existing **Fire Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund.** (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 20. Based on the replacement cost of each vehicle and the year of replacement or refurbishment, \$110,000 must be allotted to the fund each year to ensure sufficient money is available at the time of scheduled replacement/refurbishment. The department has 6 trucks with a life expectancy of between 15-30 years.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000)** to be placed in the existing **Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund.** (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 21. The Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund covers the replacement of a small dump truck plus the three regular six wheelers and one 10-wheel dump. The smaller truck has a life expectancy of 10 years and the larger trucks 15 years plus. If prudent, a replaced truck may be kept off line for back up and to plow snow.

Article 22. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** for the purchase of one pre-owned six wheel dump truck for the New Boston Highway Department, and furthermore to authorize the withdrawal of **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** from the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 22. The CIP Committee and Selectmen have agreed in the past two years that this is a great window of opportunity, the Selectmen and Finance Committee favor taking advantage of this same opportunity for 2015.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** to be placed in the existing **Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 23. This fund allows for the replacement of the loader, grader, and the backhoe on a 12-15 year replacement cycle.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eighty five thousand dollars (\$85,000)** for the purpose of improvements **on Bedford Road**. This is a non-lapsing appropriation and will not lapse until the project is complete or until December 31, 2020, whichever comes first. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 24. This year's request is an ongoing effort to embark on important repairs on Bedford Road to make it safer and also meet the standards as prescribed by the Road Agent.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **forty thousand dollars (\$40,000)** to be added to the existing **Town Bridge Repair/Replacement Capital Reserve Fund**. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 25. The funding under this Warrant Article is consistent with the CIP recommendation and scheduling for bridge repair and replacement projects. In order to keep up with the high cost of bridge repairs in the future, the Road Agent has a long term plan for the future upkeep and construction. In order not to spike the appropriation for some years, the CIP Committee spread the Capital Reserve funding to be consistent each year.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)** to be added to the **Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund** to be used for the 2016 town wide revaluation update. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 26. State Law requires the Town to undertake a complete revaluation or update every five years. In order to alleviate a large appropriation request of \$80,000 for the scheduled update in 2016, it is more prudent to raise funds in annual increments.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one thousand thirty seven dollars (\$1,037.00)** to be added to the expendable trust fund established in 2014 for the purpose of offsetting the cost of police 'detail' coverage incurred by New Boston non-profits when they sponsor public events in New Boston that require security (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 27. Last year this article came before the voters and passed. This article is designed to make the amount expendable by the Selectmen as needed and unspent

funds may be carried over from year to year. Each year it is intended that this fund be replenished to the \$2,500 amount. In 2014 the fund was depleted by \$1,037.00.

Article 28. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty four thousand five hundred dollars (\$24,500.00)** for the purpose of purchasing and installing new wall mount heat pump air conditioning and heating units in the town hall offices. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee Recommend 6-1)

Explanation for Article 28. This will replace the cumbersome and extremely heavy older window air conditioners previously installed in each window during the spring and removed in the fall. The Town's Safety Committee has recommended this purchase. It will be most effective in reducing the Town Hall electricity costs as the units will be far more energy efficient than the older window air conditioners. This purchase will involve eight town hall offices.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three hundred ninety thousand dollars (\$390,000)** to design and construct a footbridge over the Piscataquog River connecting Mill Pond Conservation area (owned by the Town of New Boston) with property owned by the Town of New Boston (Library), allowing public access to the businesses located in the post office section of town, of which **three hundred twelve thousand dollars (\$312,000)** is to be funded by the NH Department of Transportation (Transportation Alternatives Program) and **seventy eight thousand dollars (\$78,000)** to be fundraised by the New Boston Foot Traffic Safety Committee. This will not have any affect on the tax rate. (Majority Vote Required) (Selectmen and Finance Committee recommend 7-0)

Explanation for Article 29. This article will have no bearing on the tax rate since there is an application currently before the NH DOT for a grant 80% and the remainder will be fundraised. The footbridge will be accessed from a trail off Mill Street and cross over the river to the rear of the Library. The project was initiated by the newly formed New Boston Foot Traffic Safety Committee. Should there be no success in obtaining the DOT grant no further action on project will be taken by the Selectmen. The Committee may, however, seek the funding through fundraising totally.

Article 30. To propose to increase the Town Veteran Tax Credit by \$300. Credit to be applied to New Boston Veteran Home Owner's property tax as a tribute for their Sacrifice and Service for our country. (Submitted by Petition)

Article 31. To see if the Town will add a new section on the semi-annual tax bill to provide a convenient way for taxpayers to donate and additional dollar amount to be dedicated specifically to the New Boston Central School. The new section will allow taxpayers to allocate donations to one of the following areas:

- Technology upgrades
- Purchase of musical instruments or art supplies
- Playground facility upgrades
- Any of the above

Donations received will be held in separate accounts administered by the School Board. Any costs to track and distribute these funds will be deducted from the total and reimbursed back to the town

As a show of appreciation, the names of those who donated will be reported twice-yearly in an advertisement placed in the local newspaper. All names will be listed unless a donor indicates that they wish to remain anonymous. The newspaper advertisement will not show dollar amounts, but some names may be featured more prominently than others, depending on the amount given. (Submitted by Petition)

Article 32. To act on any other business that may legally come before this meeting.